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(54) Title: INHIBITION OF HAIR GROWTH

(57) Abstract

Mammalian hair growth is reduced by applying to the skin a composition including an inhibitor of 5-lipoxygenase.

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### INHIBITION OF HAIR GROWTH

The invention relates to the inhibition of hair growth.

Arachidonic acid is released from

5 membrane lipids in response to injury or other irritation. The enzyme 5-lipoxygenase converts arachidonic acid into 5-hydroperoxyercosa-6,8,11,14-tetraenoic acid, which subsequently is converted into a family of compounds known as leukotrienes. The exact biological role of leukotrienes has not yet been determined.

It has now been found that mammalian (including human) hair growth can be inhibited by applying to the skin a composition including an inhibitor of 5-lipoxygenase in an amount effective to reduce hair growth in the applied area.

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Examples of 5-lipoxygenase inhibitors that have been found effective in reducing hair growth include quercetin (3,3',4',5,7-pentahydroxy flavone), dl-α-tocopherol, apigenin (4',5,7-trihydroxy flavone), propyl gallate, NDGA (nondihydroguaianetic acid), and caffeic acid (3,4-dihydroxycinnamic acid). All of these compounds are known in the art and are commercially available. Other inhibitors of 5-lipoxygenase are known in the art; see, for

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example, Laughton et al., 42 Biochemical Pharmacology 1673 (1991).

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The composition preferably includes a non-toxic dermatologically acceptable vehicle or carrier which is adapted to be spread upon the skin. Examples of suitable vehicles are acetone, alcohols, or a cream, lotion, or gel which can effectively deliver the active compound. In addition, a penetration enhancer may be added to the vehicle to further enhance the effectiveness of the formulation.

The concentration of the inhibitor in the composition may be varied over a wide range up to a saturated solution, preferably from 1 to 30% by weight or even more; the reduction of hair growth increases as the amount of inhibitor applied increases per unit area of skin. The maximum amount effectively applied is limited only by the rate at which the inhibitor penetrates the skin. Generally, the effective amounts range from 100 to 3000 micrograms or more per square centimeter of skin.

The composition should be applied to the area of the body where it is desired to inhibit hair growth. Typically, the composition can be applied to the face, particularly to the beard area of the face, i.e., the cheek, neck, upper lip, and chin. The composition can also be applied to the legs, arms, torso or armpit. The composition is particularly suitable for the treatment of hirsutism. In humans, the composition should be applied once or twice a day, or even more frequently, for at least three months to achieve a perceived reduction in hair growth.

Reduction of hair growth is demonstrated when the frequency of hair removal

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is reduced, or the subject perceives less hair on the treated site, or quantitatively, when the weight of hair removed by shaving (i.e., hair mass) is reduced. Male intact Golden Syrian hamsters are considered acceptable models for human beard hair growth in that they display oval shaped flank organs, one on each side, each about 8 mm. in major diameter, which grow thick black and coarse hair similar to human beard hair. These organs produce hair in response to androgens in the hamster.

To evaluate the effectiveness of a particular inhibitor, the flank organs of each of a group of hamsters are depilated by applying a thioglycolate based chemical depilatory 15 (Surgex). To one organ of each animal 10-25  $\mu$ 1. of vehicle alone once a day is applied, while to the other organ of each animal an equal amount of vehicle containing the 5-lipoxygenase 20 inhibitor is applied. After thirteen applications (one application per day for five days a week), the flank organs are shaved and the amount of recovered hair (hair mass) from each is weighed. Percent-reduction of hair growth is calculated by subtracting the hair 25 mass (mg) value of the test compound treated side from the hair mass value of the vehicle treated side; the delta value obtained is then divided by the hair mass value of the vehicle treated side, and the resultant number is 30 multiplied by 100.

The preferred 5-lipoxygenase inhibitors were tested according to the above procedure; the results are presented in Table 1. Vehicle A is acetone; vehicle B is 35% dipropylene glycol, 30% ethanol, 25% acetone, and 10% benzyl alcohol; vehicle C is 68%

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purified water, 16% ethanol (200 proof), 5% propylene glycol, 5% dipropylene glycol, 4% benzyl alcohol, and 2% propylene carbonate; vehicle D is 80% ethanol (190 proof), 17.5% purified water, 2% propylene glycol dipelargonate, and 0.5% propylene glycol; and vehicle E is a moisturizing lotion containing common cosmetic ingredients which include emulsifiers, detergents and preservatives.

		Percent Inhibition	27+6	83+4	49+7	54+9	82+5	67±5	$81_{\pm}4$	<b>∓</b> 9	62±7
	HAIR MASS	Control (mg)	1.543±.10	2.679±.22		2.230±.26	$1.380\pm0.22$	_	$2.391_{\pm}.21$	2.424±.17	2.148±.22
T DICE		Treated (mg)	1.100±.10	$0.419 \pm .07$	0.400±.06	$1.019 \pm .22$	$0.271 \pm .0.09$	$0.870 \pm .15$	0.450±.11	1.740±.06	0.797±.13
		Hd	0.9	5.5	5.0	10.0	8.0	7.0	6.5	6.0	4.0
		Vehicle	K	Д	K	ບ	Ω	Ω	Q	Ω	덜
		рове	5 %	10%	5 %	5,	10%	5 %	10%	5%	15%
		Compound	Quercetin		dl-a-Tocopherol	Apigenin		Propyl gallate	NDGA	Caffeic acid	

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It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that the invention can be performed within a wide range of equivalent parameters of composition and conditions without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention or of any embodiment thereof.

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#### C L A I M S

- 1. A process of inhibiting mammalian hair growth, comprising applying to the skin a composition including an inhibitor of 5-
- 5 lipoxygenase in an amount effective to reduce hair growth.
  - 2. The process of claim 1, wherein said inhibitor is quercetin.
  - 3. The process of claim 1, wherein said
- 10 inhibitor is  $dl-\alpha$ -tocopherol.
  - 4. The process of claim 1, wherein said inhibitor is apigenin.
  - 5. The process of claim 1, wherein said inhibitor is propyl gallate.
- 15 6. The process of claim 1, wherein said inhibitor is NDGA.
  - 7. The process of claim 1, wherein said inhibitor is caffeic acid.
  - 8. The process of claim 1, wherein said
- 20 concentration of said inhibitor in said composition is between 1% and 30%.
  - 9. The process of claim 1, wherein the composition is applied to the skin in an amount of from 100 to 3000 micrograms of said inhibitor
- 25 per square centimeter of skin.

or carrier.

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- 10. The process of claim 1, wherein the composition is applied to the skin on the face of said mammal.
  - 11. A method of producing a composition
- for inhibiting mammalian hair growth, which comprises selecting an inhibitor of 5-lipoxygenase, and combining said inhibitor, in an amount effective to reduce hair growth, with a non-toxic, dermatologically acceptable vehicle
- 12. A method according to claim 11, wherein said vehicle or carrier is adapted to be

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spread upon the skin of a mammal.

of claims 2 to 8.

- 13. A method according to claim 11, wherein said inhibitor is as defined in any one of claims 2 to 8.
- 5 14. The new use of an inhibitor of 5-lipoxygenase for reducing hair growth.
  - 15. A composition when used for inhibiting mammalian hair growth, which includes an inhibitor of 5-lipoxygenase in an amount
- effective to reduce hair growth and a non-toxic, dermatologically acceptable vehicle or carrier.

  16. A composition according to claim 15, wherein said inhibitor is as defined in any one

# A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 5 A61K7/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

#### **B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 5 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT						
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where					

Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 13, no. 308 (C-617) & JP,A,O1 196 126 (KAO CORP.) 14 April 1989 see abstract	1,2,8-16
US,A,4 530 844 (EMERBECK ET AL.) 23 July 1985 see the whole document	1-3,6, 8-16
DATABASE WPI Week 8441, Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; AN 84-254475 & JP,A,59 155 314 (RIKAGAKU KENKYUSHO) 4 September 1984	1,7-16
see abstract	
	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 13, no. 308 (C-617) & JP,A,O1 196 126 (KAO CORP.) 14 April 1989 see abstract  US,A,4 530 844 (EMERBECK ET AL.) 23 July 1985 see the whole document  DATABASE WPI Week 8441, Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; AN 84-254475 & JP,A,59 155 314 (RIKAGAKU KENKYUSHO) 4 September 1984 see abstract

X	Further documents	are listed in th	ne continuation of box C.
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Y Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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## 29 September 1994

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Fischer, J.P.

10.10.94

Alagory *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevent to claim No.
۸	S.T.N., File Supplier, Karlsruhe, DE, File Chemical Abstracts, vol 101, n 2087 see the abstract	1,5,8-16
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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 94/05361

Box I	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
This into	ernational search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
j. [	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
, <b>4</b>	
2. X	Claims Nos.:  1, 8-16 because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
	The inhibition of 5-lipoxygenase is a property of many compounds. Due to the broadness of claim 1, the search has been carried out and based on the examples.
3.	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Inte	rnauonal Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
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2.	As all scarchable claims could be scarches without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
•	
3.	As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark	on Protest  The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
	No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.



PCT/US 94/05361

Patent document	Publication date	Patent family		Publication
cited in search report		member(s)		date
US-A-4530844	23-07-85	CA-A- US-A-	1240931 4568696	23-08-88 04-02-86